Docket No.: 2002P12306

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Applic. No.	:	10/522,824	Confirmation No.: 4725
Inventor	:	Norbert Löbig	
Filed	:	January 31, 2005	
Title	:	Efficient Connection of ISDN Private Branch Exchanges to a Packet-Switched Network	
TC/A.U.	:	2614	
Examiner	:	Simon P. Sing	
Customer No.	:	24131	

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BRIEF ON APPEAL

Sir:

This is an appeal from the final rejection in the Office action dated April 29, 2010, finally rejecting claims1-15, and 17-29.

Appellants would like to draw the *Board's* attention to the fact that the enumeration of the claims in the Office action summary of the final Office action is incorrect. Claims 1-11 were cancelled by appellants in

an amendment dated January 13, 2010. Thus, the claims under appeal are 12-15 and 17-29.

Appellants submit this *Brief on Appeal* including payment in the amount of $540.00 to cover the fee for filing the *Brief on Appeal*.

Real Party in Interest:

This application is assigned to Nokia Siemens Networks GmbH &Co. KG of Muenchen, Germany. The assignment was recorded under Reel/Frame numbers 021786/0236 on November 4, 2008.

Related Appeals and Interferences:

No related appeals or interference proceedings are currently pending which would directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in this appeal.

Status of Claims:

Claims 12-15 and 17-29 are rejected in the final Office action. Claims 1-11 and 16 were cancelled in an amendment dated January 13, 2010.

Status of Amendments:

No claims were amended after the final Office action. A *Notice of Appeal* was filed on June 14, 2010.

Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter:

The subject matter of each independent claim is described in the specification of the instant application. Examples explaining the subject

matter defined in each of the independent claims, referring to the specification by page and line numbers, and to the drawings, are given below.

Independent claim 12 reads as follows:

A method for exchanging signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] between a PRA ISDN connection [page 9, line 5; Fig. 1, PRA] and a packet-oriented exchange [page 9, line 12; Fig. 1, P-Vst] via a peripheral adapter [page 8, lines 35-36; Fig. 1, TNE1], comprising:

processing by the packet-oriented exchange [page 9, line 12; Fig. 1, P-Vst] signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] transferred from the PRA ISDN connection signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] of a BRA ISDN connection [page 9, line 5; Fig. 1, PRA] out of a plurality of BRA ISDN connections [page 10, lines 5-6; Fig. 2, BRA1-BRA-15];

adapting in the peripheral adapter [page 8, lines 35-36; Fig. 1, TNE1] the signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] transferred from the PRA ISDN connection [page 9, line 5; Fig. 1, PRA] in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the BRA ISDN connection [page 10, lines 5-6; Fig. 2, BRA1-BRA-15]; and

adapting signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] transferred from the packet-oriented exchange [page 9, line 12; Fig. 1, P-Vst] to the peripheral adapter [page 8, lines 35-36; Fig. 1, TNE1] in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the PRA ISDN connection [page 9, line 5; Fig. 1, PRA], wherein the PRA ISDN connection [page 9, line 5; Fig. 1, PRA] is represented by said plurality of BRA ISDN connections [page 10, lines 5-6; Fig. 2, BRA1-BRA-15] in the packet-oriented exchange [page 9, line 12; Fig. 1, P-Vst].

Independent claim 22 reads as follows:

A peripheral adapter [page 8, lines 35-36; Fig. 1, TNE1] for a connection of an ISDN private branch exchange [page 8, line 33; Fig. 1, PBX1] or ISDN terminal to a packet network [page 8, line 35; Fig. 1, IPNET], comprising a resource [page 10, lines 8-11; Fig. 2, ndattble] for adapting signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] transferred from a PRA ISDN connection [page 9, line 5; Fig. 1, PRA] to a packet-oriented exchange [page 9, line 12; Fig. 1, P-Vst] for the purpose of the signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] being processed by the packet-based exchange [page 9, line 12; Fig. 1, P-Vst] as signaling information [page 11, lines 1-5] of BRA ISDN connections [page 10, line 1; Fig. 2, BRA1 – BRA15].

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

1. Whether or not claims 12-15, 17, 18 and 20-27 are obvious over Liu et al. (US 6,434,139), hereinafter Liu, in view of Goodman (US 7,173,910) and further in view of Zhao (US 7,046,683) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

2. Whether or not claim 19 is obvious over Liu et al. (US 6,434,139), hereinafter Liu, in view of Goodman (US 7,173,910), further in view of Zhao (US 7,046,683), and further in view of Rose et al. (US 6,396,840), hereinafter Rose, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Argument:

Claims 12-15, 17, 18 and 20-27 are not obvious over Liu et al. in view of Goodman and Zhao under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 12

Claim 12 reads as follows:

A method for exchanging signaling information between a PRA ISDN connection and a packet-oriented exchange via a peripheral adapter, comprising:

(a) processing by the packet-oriented exchange signaling information transferred from the PRA ISDN connection as signaling information of a BRA ISDN connection out of a plurality of BRA ISDN connections;

(b) adapting in the peripheral adapter the signaling information transferred from the PRA ISDN connection in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the BRA ISDN connection; and

(c) adapting signaling information transferred from the packet-oriented exchange to the peripheral adapter in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the PRA ISDN connection,

(d) wherein the PRA ISDN connection is represented by said plurality of BRA ISDN connections in the packet-oriented exchange.

Neither Liu, Goodman, nor Zao disclose or suggest the above mentioned limitations (a), (b), (d) of claim 12. Therefore, it was simply

not possible for the invention as defined by claim 12 to have been suggested by combining the teachings in Liu, Goodman, and Zao.

Let us begin by considering the teaching of Liu. Liu does not teach or suggest limitations (a), (b) and (d) of claim 12.

Liu does not provide any information on a packet-oriented exchange in his packet data network 10.

Liu does not disclose a packet-oriented exchange. In particular Liu does not disclose or make evident a packet-oriented exchange, which would process signaling information transferred from the PRA ISDN connection as signaling information of a BRA ISDN connection. Also Liu does not disclose or suggest a representation in a packet-oriented exchange according to which a PRA ISDN connection would be represented by a plurality of BRA ISDN connections. Thus Liu does not disclose or suggest limitations (a) and (d) of claim 12.

Limitation (b) reads “adapting in the peripheral adapter the signaling information transferred from the PRA ISDN connection in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the BRA ISDN connection. The

gateways 22 and 24 of Liu are H.323 gateways, which may or may not have an integrated "signaling gateway function". In the first case the gateways 22 and 24 will not process any signaling information at all. In the second case, the gateways 22 and 24 use H.323 signaling towards and away from the packet data network. The H.323 signaling is layered in a protocol stack above the TCP/UDP transport layer and the network layer. The gateways 22 and 24 do not use ISDN signaling. An adaptation of signaling information transferred from a PRA ISDN connection in accordance with an ISDN connection type of a BRA ISDN connection is not disclosed or suggested by Liu. Accordingly, limitation (b) is not disclosed or suggested by Liu.

Goodman does not teach or suggest any of limitations (a), (b), and (d) of claim 12.

According to Goodman, VOIP gateway 16a may be physically connected to test probe 14a via ISDN PRI and may be connected to the VOIP network 12 via ISDN-BRI, CAS T1/E1 or an analog FXO interface. For testing of voice call quality on a per protocol base test probe 14a initiates a call and dials a telephone number corresponding to another test probe, e.g. test probe 14b. This will cause the gateway

16a to initiate a related VOIP call via e.g. H.323, SIP, MGCP, or MEGACO/ H.248 signaling. (Cf. Goodman, col. 3, lines 57-62, col. 4, line 58- col. 5, line 21). Thus ISDN PRI signaling of the test probes may be converted to e.g. H.323, SIP, MGCP, or MEGACO/ H.248 signaling according to a packet based signaling standard - not according to ISDN BRI type signaling.

In particular an adaptation of signaling information transferred from a PRA ISDN connection in accordance with a ISDN connection type of a BRA ISDN connection is not disclosed and is not suggested by Goodman. As shown in Fig. 3, Goodman deals with a VOIP POP (Point of Presence) scenario. The physical connection between the POP gateways 16-i and the routers R of the VOIP network 12 may be any suitable transport interface (e.g. ISDN-BRI, CAS T1/E1 or an analog FXO) according to a given network configuration. VOIP calls over the network are signaled over these physical connections as signaling packets e.g. of the referenced packet based signaling standards and not as ISDN BRI connection type dependent ISDN signaling.

Thus Goodman does not disclose or suggest limitation (b) of claim12.

Furthermore, Goodman does not provide any information on a packet-oriented exchange in his VOIP network 12. This means that limitations (a) and (d) are not disclosed or suggested by Goodman.

With regard to limitation (b) of claim 12, the Examiner states that "Liu fails to explicitly teach that the connection between gateway 22 and Packet Data Network 10 is a Basic Rate Access (BRI or BRA) connection". However, this statement does not reflect the claimed subject matter of limitation (b) of claim 12 and therefore is not relevant.

Zhao does not teach or suggest any of limitations (a), (b), (c), and (d) of claim 12.

The Examiner (See page 3 of the Office action) maps the trunk board 152 of Zhao to an adapter and the route switch 180 of Zhao to a packet network exchange. However, nothing in the entire teaching of Zhao discloses or suggests processing signaling information from a PRA ISDN connection in the route switch board 180 of Zhao as signaling of a BRA ISDN connection. Additionally, there is no teaching or suggestion of an ISDN connection type aware adapting of signaling information in the trunk board 152 of Zhao. Furthermore, a

representation of a PRA ISDN connection by a plurality of BRA ISDN connections is not disclosed or suggested with respect to the route switch board 180. Column 2, lines 20-40 provides guidance for routing PSTN calls over a packet-based network on base of the elements of Fig. 1. Column 3, lines 4-13 provides general information on call agents. Column 4, lines 50-56 provides the information that a "packet voice gateway" provides an interface between a packet based network and some other type of network or device(s) including PRI and BRI. Column 5, lines 1-12 and Fig. 2 provides the information that the gateway 70 connects to the central office 24 via a circuit switched trunk 94. Gateways 72 and 74 are described to connect to access network devices, and gateways 70, 72, 74 are described as being controlled by call agent 76. Thus in particular the portions of Zhao, which have been cited by the Examiner have no relevance with respect to the discussed limitations of claim 12.

Furthermore, the Examiner argues that there are "bearer channel connections" between gateway 70 and gateways 72 and 74, which the Examiner interprets as "a basic rate access connection" on the basis of paragraph 0010 of the background disclosure of appellant's specification. However, first the document of Zhao does not at all use

the expression “bearer channel connections”, and second paragraph 0010 of the “background of invention” section of appellant’s specification does not use the expression “connection”. That teaching is about conventional adapters for ISDN private branch exchanges with BRA and/or PRA and usage of DSS1/IUA. Thus, the Examiner’s statement is not supported by the cited portions of Zhao.

Thus Zhao does not disclose or suggest any of limitations (a), (b), (c), and (d) of claim 12.

On page 3, bottom of the second paragraph of the Final Office action, the Examiner cites column 15, lines 5-8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,275,573 to Naor to support a motivation for modifying Liu according to Goodman and Zhao. However, column 15, lines 5-8 of Naor is about “a multi-unit encryption/decryption device 370 that interfaces to an PRI ISDN link 37” and is about the statement, that “the PRI ISDN link may be carried over an E1 line (30B+D) or a T1 line (24B+D).” Furthermore, Noar is about a system and method for secured network access in a pure PSTN/ISDN environment. Thus it does not provide any teaching or suggestion for the limitations (a), (b), (c), and (d) of claim 12.

Since neither Liu, Goodman, nor Zao disclose or suggest the above mentioned limitations (a), (b), (d) of claim 12, is was simply not possible for the invention as defined by claim 12 to have been suggested.

Furthermore, it is not clear, to what extent one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine one of the cited prior art documents with another one of the cited documents.

Additionally, Appellant wants to comment on the Examiner's "Response to Arguments" on page 5-6 of the Final Office action. In item 3a), the Examiner interprets the trunk line 18, 20 of Liu as a "Prime Rate (PRA, PRI) connection". However, appellant believes this is incorrect. According to Liu "communication between the PSTN 8 and the EOs 12 and 14 would typically utilize trunk groups 18 carrying PCM digital voice traffic on multiplexed channels at a primary rate of 1.544 Mbps (T1), 2,048 Mbps (E1), or better." Thus Liu only refers to the transmission rate in the digital transmission hierarchy of PCM technology. Liu does not disclose or suggest that the trunk group 18/20 is a PRA ISDN connection, which would imply the channel structure of B and D Channels of an ISDN Primary Rate Interface and a subscriber line like signaling method.

In item 3b), the Examiner makes a global statement relating to "adapting the PRA connection to a plurality of BRA connections as cited in the claims". The Examiner makes the statement that "a T1 (or E1) trunk carries 24 (or 30) bearer (B) channels and one signaling (D) channel, when a PRA connection is converted to BRA, signaling information from the single D channel in the PRA is de-multiplexed to a plurality of D-channels for BRA connections." However, simple de-multiplexing is technically not possible due to ISDN call reference handling and layer 1/2 handling. Also treatment of these issues in a packet based exchange is not considered.

Claim 22

Claim 22 defines a peripheral adapter for a connection of an ISDN private branch exchange or ISDN terminal to a packet network, comprising a resource for adapting signaling information transferred from a PRA ISDN connection to a packet-oriented exchange for the purpose of the signaling information being processed by the packet-based exchange as signaling information of BRA ISDN connections.

None of the cited references teach a resource for adapting signaling information transferred from a PRA ISDN connection to a packet-oriented exchange for the purpose of the signaling information being processed by the packet-based exchange as signaling information of BRA ISDN connections.

As discussed above with regard to claim 12, Liu teaches H.323 signaling. The H.323 signaling is layered in a protocol stack above the TCP/UDP transport layer and the network layer. There is no teaching relating to ISDN signaling or a packet oriented exchange.

As has been discussed with regard to claim 12, Goodman teaches that the VOIP gateway 16a may be physically connected to test probe 14a via ISDN PRI and may be connected to the VOIP network 12 via ISDN-BRI, CAS T1/E1 or an analog FXO interface. For testing of voice call quality on a per protocol base test probe 14a initiates a call and dials a telephone number corresponding to another test probe, e.g. test probe 14b. This will cause the gateway 16a to initiate a related VOIP call via e.g. H.323, SIP, MGCP, or MEGACO/ H.248 signaling. (Cf. Goodman, col. 3, lines 57-62, col. 4, line 58- col. 5, line 21). Thus ISDN PRI signaling of the test probes may be converted to e.g. H.323, SIP,

MGCP, or MEGACO/ H.248 signaling according to a packet based signaling standard - not according to ISDN BRI type signaling. The limitations of claim 22 are not taught. As shown in Fig. 3, Goodman deals with a VOIP POP (Point of Presence) scenario. The physical connection between the POP gateways 16-i and the routers R of the VOIP network 12 may be any suitable transport interface (e.g. ISDN-BRI, CAS T1/E1 or an analog FXO) according to a given network configuration. VOIP calls over the network are signaled over these physical connections as signaling packets e.g. of the referenced packet based signaling standards and not as ISDN BRI connection type dependent ISDN signaling.

The teaching in Zhao is silent on the limitations in claim 22. Column 2, lines 20-40 provides guidance for routing PSTN calls over a packet-based network on base of the elements of Fig. 1. Column 3, lines 4-13 provides general information on call agents. Column 4, lines 50-56 provides the information that a "packet voice gateway" provides an interface between a packet based network and some other type of network or device(s) including PRI and BRI. Column 5, lines 1-12 and Fig. 2 provides the information that the gateway 70 connects to the central office 24 via a circuit switched trunk 94. Gateways 72 and 74

are described to connect to access network devices, and gateways 70, 72, 74 are described as being controlled by call agent 76. Thus in particular the portions of Zhao, which have been cited by the Examiner have no relevance with respect to the limitations of claim 22.

Claim 13

Claim 13 relates to representing different ISDN connections by a single connection type in the packet-oriented exchange and adapting exchanged signaling information in the peripheral adapter in accordance with the different ISDN connection types.

The Examiner supports the rejection of claim 13 by stating that "the modified Liu reference teaches processing and transferring different ISDN connection types to and from the modified gateway 22 as stated before." However, transferring different ISDN connection types does not relate to the limitations in claim 13. Appellant believes the rejection of claim 13 has not been adequately supported.

Claims 14, 15, 20, and 24

With respect to claims 14, 15, 20 and 24 the Examiner takes official notice "that it was well known in the art that a gateway comprises a routing table for routing data, including signaling information, to

different routers and destination gateways in the packet data network 10."

Regarding Official Notice, MPEP § 2144.03.A states (emphasis added):[i]t would not be appropriate for the Examiner to take official notice of facts without citing a prior art reference where the facts asserted to be well known are not capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being wellknown. For example, assertions of... specific knowledge of the prior art must always be supported by citation to some reference work recognized as standard in the pertinent art. *In re Ahlert*, 424 F.2d at 1091, 165 USPQ at 420-21. *See also In re Grose*, 592 F.2d 1161, 1167-68, 201 USPQ 57, 63 (CCPA 1979). Further, if an appellant traverses the examiner's assertion of Official Notice, the Examiner must provide documentary evidence in the next Office Action if the rejection is to be maintained. *See* 37 CFR 1.104(c)(2) and MPEP 2144.03C. *See also In re Zurko*, 258 F.3d 1379, 1386, 59 USPQ2d 1693, 1697 (Fed. Cir. 2001) ("[T]he Board cannot simply reach conclusions based on its own understanding or experience, or on its assessment of what would be basic knowledge or common sense. Rather, the Board must point to some concrete evidence in the record in support of these findings."). Deficiencies of the cited references can not be remedied by general

conclusions about what is basic knowledge or common sense to one of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Zurko*, 258 F.3d 1379, 1385-86 (Fed. Cir. 2001). An assessment of basic knowledge and common sense that is not based on any evidence in the record lacks substantial evidence support. *Id.* That is, such unfounded assertions are not permissible substitutes for evidence. *See, In re Lee*, 277 F.3d 1338, 1435, 61 USPQ2d 1430, 1435 (Fed. Cir. 2002).

Thus, to the extent that Official Notice is explicitly or implicitly utilized to support any rejection, such as the rejection of any of claims 14, 15, 20, 24, each of these rejections is respectfully traversed in its entirety as asserting facts not capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being well-known, and thereby citation and provision of a reference that supports the rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition, claim 14 relates to adapting the exchanged signaling information ensues according to a mapping of data channels differentiated for the respective different ISDN connection types. However, this is not covered by the official notice. Appellant believes the rejection of claim 14 has not been adequately supported since no supporting statements have been provided.

In addition claim 20 relates to the limitation, wherein the exchanged signaling information is converted via the peripheral adapter for controlling a data channel according to the mapping of the data channels. However, this is not covered by the official notice. Appellant believes the rejection of claim 20 has not been adequately supported since no supporting statements have been provided.

Claims 17, 18, and 28

With respect to claims 17, 18, and 28, the Examiner takes official notice that "a gateway comprised a mapping table for call identifiers and plurality of channels."

Referring to the same arguments provided above it is remarked, that to the extent that Official Notice is explicitly or implicitly utilized to support any rejection, such as the rejection of any of claims 17, 18, 28, each of these rejections is respectfully traversed in its entirety as asserting facts not capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being well-known, and thereby citation and provision of a reference that supports the rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition claim 17 refers to the method according to claim 14, wherein a concentration of the data channels ensues as part of the mapping. However, this is not covered by the official notice. Appellant believes the rejection of claim 17 has not been adequately supported since no supporting statements have been provided.

Claim 18 refers to the method according to claim 14, wherein a call identifier and a bearer channel reference are adapted according to the mapping of the data channels. However, this is not covered by the official notice. Appellant believes the rejection of claim 18 has not been adequately supported since adequate supporting statements have not been provided.

Claim 25

Regarding claim 25, the Examiner states, that "the gateway 22 of the modify Liu reference obviously having and a connection end (interface) for a BRA connection to a router and a connection end for a PRA connection to Switch 12."

However, the statement cannot be comprehended. Appellant believes that the Examiner has failed to support the rejection.

Claims 28 and 29

Claims 28 and 29 have been rejected on basis of the Examiner's statement, that "as stated above, a PRA connection (24B+1D or 30B+1D) is converted (adapted) to a plurality of user BRA connections each carries 2B+1D."

However, claim 28 is about the method according to claim 12, wherein in particular said PRA ISDN connection is a physical PRA ISDN connection and wherein each BRA ISDN connection out of said plurality of BRA ISDN connections is a logical BRA ISDN connection of said packet-oriented exchange. Since the character of the BRA connection has not been considered, Appellant believes that the rejection of claim 28 is not adequately supported.

Claim 29

Claim 29 is about the method according to claim 12, wherein call identifiers of said plurality of BRA ISDN connections are adapted in said peripheral adapter with respect to uniqueness within the D-channel of said PRA ISDN connection and wherein call identifiers transmitted via the D-channel of said PRA ISDN connection in the direction of said

packet-oriented exchange are allocated to the D-channels of said plurality of BRA ISDN connections without adaptation. Since the character of the adaptation of call identifiers has not been considered, Appellant believes that the rejection of claim 29 is not properly supported.

Appellant also states that the channel structure of a T1 based PRI is 23 B channels plus one 64 kb/s D channel for a total of 1536 kb/s, and not 24B + 1D as repeatedly stated by the examiner.

Claim 19 is not obvious over Liu et al. in view of Goodman, Zhao and Rose et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Appellant believes the invention as defined by claim 19 would not have been suggested for the reasons given above with regard to claim 12.

Additionally, with regard to Rose, the Examiner stated that "Rose teaches using DSS1 protocol in a gateway interface 112 (figures 5 and 6, column 9, lines 6-13)". However, claim 19 is about the method according to claim 12, wherein a DSS1 protocol is used between the

PRA ISDN connection and the peripheral adapter, and a connection is permanently maintained on a layer of the DSS1 protocol. Therefore, the invention as defined by claim 19 could not have been suggested.

The honorable Board is therefore respectfully urged to reverse the final rejection of the Primary Examiner.

If an extension of time is required for this submission, petition for extension is herewith made. Any fees due should be charged to Deposit Account No. 12-1099 of Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

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Claims Appendix:

12. A method for exchanging signaling information between a PRA ISDN connection and a packet-oriented exchange via a peripheral adapter, comprising:

processing by the packet-oriented exchange signaling information transferred from the PRA ISDN connection signaling information of a BRA ISDN connection out of a plurality of BRA ISDN connections;

adapting in the peripheral adapter the signaling information transferred from the PRA ISDN connection in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the BRA ISDN connection; and

adapting signaling information transferred from the packet-oriented exchange to the peripheral adapter in accordance with the ISDN connection type of the PRA ISDN connection, wherein the PRA ISDN connection is represented by said plurality of BRA ISDN connections in the packet-oriented exchange.

13. The method according to claim 12, further comprising: representing different ISDN connections by a single connection type in the packet-oriented exchange; wherein the connection type of the PRA ISDN connection differs from the single connection type, by which the

different ISDN connections are represented in the packet oriented exchange; exchanging the signaling information between the PRA ISDN connection and the packet-oriented exchange; and adapting the exchanged signaling information in the peripheral adapter in accordance with the different ISDN connection types.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein adapting the exchanged signaling information ensues according to a mapping of data channels differentiated for the respective different ISDN connection types.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the mapping ensues via a table in the peripheral adapter.

17. The method according to claim 14, wherein a concentration of the data channels ensues as part of the mapping.

18. The method according to claim 14, wherein a call identifier and a bearer channel reference are adapted according to the mapping of the data channels.

19. The method according to claim 12, wherein a DSS1 protocol is used between the PRA ISDN connection and the peripheral adapter, and a connection is permanently maintained on a layer of the DSS1 protocol.

20. The method according to claim 14, wherein the exchanged signaling information is converted via the peripheral adapter for controlling a data channel according to the mapping of the data channels.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein a protocol selected from the group consisting of Media Gateway Control Protocol and H.248 protocol is used between the peripheral adapter and the packet-based exchange for signaling the control of the data channel.

22. A peripheral adapter for a connection of an ISDN private branch exchange or ISDN terminal to a packet network, comprising a resource for adapting signaling information transferred from a PRA ISDN connection to a packet-oriented exchange for the purpose of the signaling information being processed by the packet-based exchange as signaling information of BRA ISDN connections.

23. The peripheral adapter according to claim 22, wherein the adapter is adapted to adapt signaling information that corresponds with different ISDN connection types; and for adapting the signaling information via a mapping of data channels differentiated for the respective ISDN connection types.

24. The peripheral adapter according to claim 23, further comprising a table for adapting signaling information according to the mapping of the data channels.

25. The peripheral adapter according to claim 22, wherein the different ISDN connection types are given by a BRA connection at a packet-switched network end and the PRA ISDN connection at an ISDN connection end.

26. The peripheral adapter according to claim 23, wherein the adapter is further adapted to adapt a call identifier and a bearer channel reference.

27. The peripheral adapter according to claim 22, wherein the adapter is designed as an IAD or an MTA.

28. The method according to claim 12, wherein in said peripheral adapter via a conversion table up to two data channels of said BRA ISDN connection are mapped to up to two data channels of said PRA ISDN connection, wherein said PRA ISDN connection is a physical PRA ISDN connection and wherein each BRA ISDN connection out of said plurality of BRA ISDN connections is a logical BRA ISDN connection of said packet-oriented exchange.

29. The method according to claim 12, wherein call identifiers of said plurality of BRA ISDN connections are adapted in said peripheral adapter with respect to uniqueness within the D-channel of said PRA ISDN connection and wherein call identifiers transmitted via the D-channel of said PRA ISDN connection in the direction of said packet-oriented exchange are allocated to the D-channels of said plurality of BRA ISDN connections without adaptation.

Evidence Appendix:

No evidence pursuant to §§ 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 or any other evidence has been entered by the Examiner and relied upon by appellant in the appeal.

Related Proceedings Appendix:

No prior or pending appeals, interferences or judicial proceedings are in existence which may be related to, directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in this appeal. Accordingly, no copies of decisions rendered by a court or the Board are available.